

Healthcare and care

Healthcare and care through distance spanning solutions 2018-2020 is a priority project part of the Swedish Presidency Programme of Nordic Council of Ministers 2018.

The project aims to improve access to good health and social care for Nordic populations, and create conditions for development and growth. The project description further outlines;

The project will gather experience and best practice examples, and examine whether there is a need for a long-term structure for collaboration with relevant actors at local and regional level in all the Nordic countries. The project may also initiate the development of new innovative solutions in working methods and processes for remote health and social care.

Three main blocks of activities

Healthcare and care with distance spanning solutions 2018-2020 consist of three main blocks of activities:

1. Mapping of implemented distance spanning solutions within municipalities and regions in the five Nordic countries. (2018-2019)
2. Identifying tools, strategies and methodologies for a structured implementation to secure well embedded solutions in healthcare and care organisations service models. (2019)
3. Support for municipalities and regions to implement distance-spanning solutions. (2019-2020)

Block 1: Mapping of distance spanning solutions

The objective of the mapping exercise is to identify solutions that are implemented in regions and municipalities and are accessible for the citizens use. The solutions shall also be appropriate for use in remote and rural areas. 20 of the mapped out solutions will be presented in a report to be published in June 2019, an additional 20 solutions will also be described on the project website; www.vopd.nu.

Mapped out solutions fit into four different categories:

1. **Remote treatment (treatment at distance);**
Self-care solutions for example telemedicine treatment/coaching
2. **Remote monitoring (monitoring at distance);**
For example sensors, cameras, data collection
3. **Remote meetings (meetings at distance);**
Patient summary support, multidisciplinary conferences, internal meetings
4. **New digital services for healthcare and care – new service models etc;**
Including new innovative collaboration models (private public partnerships) but also models where the citizens take a responsibility

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Current status of implementation

The mapping exercise has from a long list of approximately 500 identified solutions created a short list of 40 well functioning solutions. The mapping results are currently being reviewed and a report on the 20 most interesting solutions will be launched at the 26th of June in Reykjavik.

Block 2: Identifying tools, strategies and methodologies for a structured implementation

The objective of this activity block is to identify tools, strategies and methodologies that secure implementation of distance spanning solutions for service provision, this is done by reviewing nationally adopted tools and strategies. In addition, other tools and methodologies will be identified during the mapping exercise of distance spanning solutions (block 1).

Identified tools, strategies and methodologies will be applied in block 3, when supporting implementation of solution in municipalities and regions.

A report with description of tools, strategies and methodologies including reflection on their applicability will be published in June 2019.

Block 3: Expert support for municipalities and regions to implement distance-spanning solutions

The objective of this activity is, through expert support in regions and municipalities, to implement distance-spanning solutions and increase the municipalities and regions capacity for implementation.

Regions and municipalities will be selected through open call procedures during spring 2019 and spring 2020, in total 10 Nordic municipalities and 10 Nordic regions.

The support will be organised around the use of the strategies, tools and methodologies identified in block 2. An evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the tools, and possible suggestion of updates will be carried out between the first and second call of regions and municipalities for expert support.

Summary

We will through the mapping exercise gather experience and best practice examples, for inspiration. The project will also initiate the development of new innovative solutions in working methods and processes for remote health and social care providers, through expert support. Finally, we will aim to examine whether there is a need for a long-term Nordic collaboration structure related to distance-spanning solutions between relevant actors at local and regional level.

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